

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 098943
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 SIG-03 MMO-01 PA-01
ICA-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /059 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:IGTRAGEN:AB

APPROVED BY USOAS:IGTRAGEN

-----062777 181826Z /53

P 181754Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

INFO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098943

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAS, SHUM, PA, ES

SUBJECT: PAN AMERICAN DAY: A NEW DIMENSION TO HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: STATE 096699

SUMMARY: NORMALLY CEREMONIAL OCCASION CELEBRATING DAY OF THE AMERICAS AT PAN AMERICAN UNION APRIL 14 WAS USED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF PARAGUAY (REFTEL) AND EL SALVADOR, CURRENT PERMANENT COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, TO CRITICIZE US LATIN AMERICAN POLICIES, ESPECIALLY HUMAN RIGHTS. MOST OTHER DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED PRIVATE REGRETS AT UNFORTUNATE DEPARTURE FROM USUAL PRACTICE, AND VENEZUELA'S MACHIN MADE LOW-KEY STATEMENT AT CONCLUSION OF SESSION DEPLORING HIGHLY POLITICAL REMARKS NOT EXPRESSIVE OF CONSENSUS OPINION IN PERMANENT COUNCIL. END SUMMARY.

1. PARAGUAYAN AND SALVADORAN AMBASSADORS TO THE OAS USED PAN AMERICAN DAY, APRIL 14, TO LAUNCH STRONG ATTACKS ON THE US HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. BOTH AMBASSADORS GAVE LIP SERVICE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 098943

TO THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND THE RIGHTS OF MAN, BUT BOTH ATTACKED THE US FOR FAILING TO FACE UP EITHER TO THE DANGERS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM OR ITS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CREATING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

WITHIN WHICH THE RIGHTS OF MAN COULD BE NURTURED AND PROGRESSIVELY EXPANDED.

2. SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR, SIDNEY MAZZINI, CURRENTLY CHAIRMAN OF THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL, AND ACCREDITED TO THE OAS FOR LESS THAN THREE MONTHS, ORGANIZED THE SESSION. BY TRADITION, SPEECHES IN OAS PROTOCOLARY MEETINGS DEAL ONLY WITH SUBJECTS ON WHICH THERE IS A CONSENSUS OF ALL MEMBERS. THE CHOICE OF THEME THIS YEAR SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SALVADORAN CHAIRMAN'S IDEA. HE EMPHASIZED IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS THE RIGHT OF STATES TO DEFEND THEMSELVES AGAINST SUBVERSION, ESPECIALLY WHEN DIRECTED BY QUOTE NEW IMPERIAL FORCES FROM BEYOND THE HEMISPHERE UNQUOTE. HE ENDED HIS SPEECH WITH A CONDEMNATION OF EXTERNAL SANCTIONS LEVIED AGAINST A COUNTRY IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS--SANCTIONS THAT VIOLATE A COUNTRY'S SOVEREIGNTY AND THE SACRED RIGHTS OF NON-INTERFERENCE AND NON-INTERVENTION UNDER THE OAS CHARTER.

3. PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR MARIO LOPEZ ESCOBAR ELABORATED ON THE THEME AS REPORTED REFTEL. IT SEEMED A LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO THE MAZZINI SPEECH, ESPECIALLY SINCE MAZZINI HAND-PICKED THE SPEAKERS. THE OTHER TWO SPEAKERS WERE (A) THE AMBASSADOR FROM TRINIDAD-TOBAGO, VICTOR MCINTYRE, WHO WAS ASKED BY MAZZINI TO PRESENT AN HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF PAN AMERICAN DAY FROM THE CARIBBEAN POINT OF VIEW, AND (B) US AMBASSADOR MCGEE WHO READ PRESIDENT CARTER'S PAN AMERICAN DAY PROCLAMATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 098943

4. PRIVATE REACTION FROM MOST LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN AMBASSADORS RANGED FROM ANGER TO DISGUST. THE BRAZILIAN, ARGENTINE, AND CHILEAN AMBASSADORS CALLED THE PERFORMANCE QUOTE BAD TASTE UNQUOTE AND WERE VISIBLY ANNOYED. AS REPORTED REFTEL, VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR MACHIN OBTAINED THE FLOOR AT THE END OF THE SESSION TO CLARIFY TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS THAT THE EXPRESSIONS OF MAZZINI AND LOPEZ ESCOBAR WERE NOT REFLECTIONS OF CONSENSUS IN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL, BUT PERSONAL VIEWS OR THOSE OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS. HE POINTED OUT SUCCINCTLY THAT THE SPEECHES WERE OUT OF ORDER IN AN OAS PROTOCOLARY SESSION. THE MEXICAN, PERUVIAN, AND GUATEMALAN AMBASSADORS CALLED THE SPEECHES QUOTE BELL-WEATHERS OF THE FORTHCOMING VIII OASGA SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON JUNE 21-30. UNQUOTE.

5. BOTH MAZZINI AND LOPEZ ESCOBAR, AFTER ATTACKING US POLICY, PRAISED ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN AND AMBASSADOR MCGEE FOR THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF LATIN AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS. THE DEPUTY US PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

TOLD BOTH MAZZINI AND LOPEZ ESCOBAR AFTER THE MEETING THAT THEIR SPEECHES WERE INAPPROPRIATE TO THE OCCASION AND A

DISSERVICE TO THE OAS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THEY
HAD MISUNDERSTOOD--POSSIBLY DELIBERATELY--THE HUMAN RIGHTS
POLICY SPELLED OUT BY SECRETARY TODMAN. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, SPEECHES, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE098943
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IGTRAGEN:AB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780166-0163
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780443/aaaabktz.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cb7e07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 96699
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2929431
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN AMERICAN DAY: A NEW DIMENSION TO HUMAN RIGHTS
TAGS: SHUM, PA, ES, US, OAS
To: SAN SALVADOR
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cb7e07ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014